

Mr. Speaker, today the Harbin Clinic staff includes 112 physicians, representing 27 medical specialties. This Sunday, the 28th of June, 1998, they will hold a ceremony in honor of the clinic's 50th anniversary.

I am proud to salute the Harbin Clinic for all it does to serve our community and heal our citizens.

#### MANAGED CARE REFORM NOW

(Mr. GREEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GREEN. Mr. Speaker, it is time to bring managed care reform legislation to the floor. The quality of medical care for our citizens has declined considerably, and it is time to act now. Some patients are not getting the best medical care possible.

Medical decisions are being made by insurance company bureaucrats, not by medical providers. If you are badly injured or severely ill, you should not have to worry about your insurance coverage. Patients should be able to obtain quality health care, whether or not they have acquired preauthorization for emergency room treatment.

We need to focus on an anti-gag rule, which allows physicians to talk to their patients, an external-internal appeals process, employee choice of insurance, access to specialty care and decision-maker responsibility, which will make the managed care plan that authorizes or fails to authorize health care procedures, be as accountable as medical providers.

Managed care is not inherently bad, but I do believe protections are needed immediately to protect the American people.

#### AN OUTRAGE AND AFFRONT TO DEMOCRACY

(Mr. HUTCHINSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, on the eve of the President's visit to China, we learn that the Chinese Government has pulled the visas of three U.S. reporters who work for Radio Free Asia and had planned to cover the President's trip. Mr. Speaker, this is an outrage and an affront to democracy.

Today, an expert in Asian studies at George Washington University said in the Washington Post, "In the end, the Clinton visit is much more about symbolism than substance." Well, if that is the case, then we are sending the wrong signals if we stand idly by and tacitly cooperate in this denial of freedom for these three reporters for Radio Free Asia.

The President frequently uses Radio Free Asia as an example of how the United States should push China to improve human rights without using trade sanctions. It is now time, Mr.

Speaker, to put actions with our words. We should stand with our reporters, and if the voice of democracy in Asia cannot travel with the President, then the President should not travel.

#### ENSURING FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY

(Mr. VENTO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, a strong labor movement helps all Americans. It is our job as elected leaders to ensure that national and state laws allow our constituents to enjoy the fundamental values of democracy, freedom of speech and freedom of assembly.

That includes under the law and custom the long-honored right of workers to have a voice in wages and working conditions under which they labor. When workers are denied that voice, they no longer share in the wealth that they create. Health workers cannot afford to be treated at the clinics and hospitals at which they labor and auto-workers cannot afford to buy and drive the cars they make.

Congress needs to show support beyond voting positively upon labor issues. We can use our leverage and our role to help ensure that the rights and interests of American workers, the labor force, are advanced, that working families are accorded dignity and respect that indeed they deserve.

Moreover, we have the obligation to make sure that employers' policies and laws that shape this relationship are just and workable. Workers have a right to fully participate in the political arena. However, today, the political voice of labor and working families face the prospect of being silenced.

Mr. Speaker, I hope today we will listen to the voice of workers, as today they are speaking up for the rights they need and merit to participate in the free enterprise economy and gain a just reward for their labors.

#### IMPROVING THE TAX CODE

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, there are three things we need to do to our Tax Code these days: We need to reduce it, we need to simplify it, and we need to change the attitude of the IRS.

Last year Congress reduced taxes for the first time in 16 years. This time we are trying again by eliminating the marriage tax penalty. We also hope to reduce capital gains tax and end the death tax, or at least alleviate it.

We have, last week, passed a bill to end the Tax Code by the year 2002, with the hopes that that will open up the debate and set a deadline for moving towards a flat tax or a sales tax.

Finally, this week we will vote to change the attitude of the IRS in a

very important major bill saying that you are innocent until proven guilty in matters before the IRS, and that is something that has never been the case in this country.

Three things that this party is going to do and this Congress is going to do: Reduce the Tax Code, simplify the Tax Code, and change the IRS's attitude.

#### SCANDAL OVER TECHNOLOGY TRANSFERS TO CHINA

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, recent reports that Loral Corporation may have given highly sensitive information to the Communist Chinese Government during April and May of 1996 and harmed national security are alarming, especially given India's decision last month to conduct nuclear tests, partly in response to China's role in helping Pakistan with its nuclear weapons program.

Then we find out that Bernard Schwartz, the CEO of Loral, was the largest single donor to the Democrat party during the 1996 election cycle. Loral, we know, was given a waiver by the Clinton administration in February of this year to export satellite technology to China, even though the Justice Department was in the middle of a criminal investigation of Loral for its last technology transfer.

Many people want to know if Loral was given a waiver because its CEO gave the Democrat party \$632,000 in 1996, and, of course, that would be nearly impossible to prove. But the real scandal, the real scandal, is our policy of giving China dual-use technology that is used in their space program and their military programs, from computers, to machines, to tools, to rocket technology. That is the biggest scandal of all.

#### REALITY CHECK ON TOBACCO LEGISLATION

(Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it is time for a reality check. Our friends on the opposite side of the aisle claim they are not the party of tobacco.

The reality is that through the eighties and mid-nineties, the Democrats accepted 10 percent more money from the tobacco industry than did Republicans, according to Common Cause. The reality is that three out of five top tobacco PAC recipients in the House are Democrats, with the second biggest recipient being the Democrat minority leader.

The reality is that during the recent tobacco debates, our liberal friends took a Republican proposal and turned it into a \$868 billion tax increase. Yes,